

Mayor Charles "Skip" Lee called a meeting of the Sterling City Council to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, November 2, 2015. Roll call. Present: Aldermen Retha Elston, Joe Martin, Chris Schuchard, John Stauter, and Chris Wilen. Absent: Alderman Bob Conklin.

Also present were City Attorney Ron Coplan, City Manager Scott Shumard, Superintendent of Building and Zoning Amanda Schmidt, Finance Director Cindy Von Holten, Police Chief Ron Potthoff, Police Lt. Tim Morgan, and City Clerk Marie Rombouts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Tom Brackemeyer, 1512 Fifth Avenue, complimented the City Council and Manager for keeping the City running with the mess in Springfield.

Brackemeyer visually walked everyone from the corner of Locust and LeFevre to Fourth Avenue along LeFevre where the sidewalk is in poor shape and has trees growing in the sidewalk's path. He noticed all the work that Sterling Schools has done to their property. Brackemeyer asked when the sidewalks will be replaced. He believes a partnership with the City and school could get this work done. Manager Shumard stated the sidewalks will be done when LeFevre is resurfaced, which is not scheduled for a few years.

Alderman Elston made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A) City Council Minutes of October 19, 2015
- B) Bills and Payroll totaling \$4,444,064.73
- C) **Resolution #R2015-11-19 to close Fourth Street** between First Avenue and Locust for the Downtown Christmas Walk on Friday, November 20, 2015 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm
- D) Partial Pay Request #8 to Martin and Company Excavating in the amount of \$108,169.20 for the work at the former Northwestern Steel & Wire site
- E) **Resolution #R2015-11-20 Abating the 2015 tax levy in the amount of \$474,787.50 for the General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source, Series 2010A (Recovery Zone Facility Bonds))**
- F) **Resolution No. R2015-11-21 abating the 2015 tax levy in the amount of \$376,240.00 for the Taxable General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010D (Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds – Direct Payment**

- G) **Resolution No. R2015-11-22 abating the 2015 property tax levy in the amount of \$166,000.00 for the General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2005**
- H) **Resolution No. R2015-11-23 abating the 2015 tax levy in the amount of \$3,396,887.50 for the General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2012**
- I) **Resolution No. R2015-11-24 abating a portion of the 2015 property tax levy in the amount of \$43,000.00 for the Special Service Area Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 1995 – Tori Pines**
- J) **Resolution #R2015-11-25 authorizing the transfer of title of property at 1411 3rd Avenue to Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation** and authorize the Mayor to sign the Cash Sale Contract of said property to Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation
- K) **Resolution #R2015-11-26 authorizing the transfer of title of property at 908 Avenue K to Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation** and authorize the Mayor to sign the Cash Sale Contract of said property to Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation

The motion was seconded by Alderman Martin. Alderman Elston asked for a reminder why these resolutions are passed annually. Manager Shumard stated several bonds have alternate revenues. If these revenues were not available, those taxes would need to be levied. Alternate revenue sources make our bonding more attractive to potential lenders. Voting: Ayes – Aldermen Elston, Martin, Schuchard, Stauter, and Wilen. Nays – None. Motion carried.

Mayor Lee announced that Firefighter Derek Sheaves has completed his probationary period. Chief Cook announced that he would be pinned by his father, Reverend Larry Sheaves.

Manager Shumard presented a video of a conference session from the annual International City Managers Association Conference demonstrating examples of reenergizing neighborhoods.

Manager Shumard announced that Avenue L from 4th Street to 11th Street is being repaved. The 300 block of Sixth Avenue is progressing well. Eighth Avenue sewer work will begin mid-November. Meetings are continuing for dispatch consolidation. A meeting is planned for Thursday with the Union Pacific railroad regarding the tracks by Eighth Avenue. Houseal Lavigne will be working on a conceptual image for the riverfront. Sixth Avenue, in front of Challand School, will be worked on next year. Shumard asked Council for input on the Strategic Plan to wrap up that project. Rock Island Growth will have an informational meeting at the Rusty Fox on November 11 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm regarding the residential units in the Lawrence Building above the courthouse.

Alderman Martin thanked City crews for leveling the alley behind the 900 block of Avenue E.

Alderman Wilen thanked City crews for temporarily patching the cul-de-sac until spring.

Alderman Elston thanked the Police Department for the flashlight distribution. She asked when study sessions would begin. Elston also reported that Cutters were very happy with staff cooperation on the signage in their yard.

Mayor Lee reminded everyone of Veteran's Day next week. He reminded everyone to replace the batteries in their smoke detectors. Mayor Lee also reminded everyone that it is illegal to park in fire lanes at grocery stores.

Alderman Martin reminded everyone that the last day for yard waste pick up will be December 4.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Marie Rombouts, City Clerk